

DOH dares drug firms to 'pirate' bird flu vaccine

By Christian Y. Eguerra

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH HAS UNLEASHED drug manufacturers to reproduce a vaccine the country is preparing for a possible outbreak of the deadly bird flu virus in the country.

"We will welcome any manufacturer of the vaccine available to us."



PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS. FEARLESS VIEWS.

Sunday, October 15, 2006

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James Bond's spy agency not so secret anymore

LONDON—AN IT LAST Thursday, the British's secret service was no longer as secret as that once.

At midnight Britain's Secret Intelligence Service, or SIS—its equivalent of the CIA—

Water blast stops rally



ENVOY On the side, former Vice President Teodoro Guingona exhibits not a handful of tear-wounds directed at the Arroyo administration.



CAN YOU DEFEND THIS AT PLAZA MIRANDA? Hundreds peacefully assembled for a religious procession. Though led by 3 anti-life bishops and opposition stalwarts, it is a peaceful, singing group. But when they reach San Sebastian College Plaza Miranda, the anti-life camp meets them out of the way. Fr. Robert Reyes is the directing figure in anti-life camp.

Guingona, bishops, priests 'cannonized' in prayer rally

By Christian Y. Eguerra and Margaux C. Dele

ONE OF THEM WAS THE COUNTRY'S FORMER vice president, aged 77. Three others were Roman Catholic bishops, one of them aged 80 and the two others in their 60s.

But across the night of October 14 in Guingona, the three aging

priests and one bishop of the Virgin Mary held club during the prayer procession. They were all wearing white robes and carrying candles. The prayer was held in the night.

Some of the protesters were seen shouting and singing.

"This is a complete violation of the rights of the people. This is a prayer rally," a vocal Guingona said after he and the others were driven back by the

police. They were protesting the Arroyo administration's policy on abortion. They were also protesting the Arroyo administration's policy on abortion.

"We were peaceful. There was no violence. There was no violence. There was no violence."

"We were peaceful. There was no violence. There was no violence. There was no violence."

Palace sows fear factor, says Joker

By Joker Arroyo, Michael L. Udo, Jr., and Margaux C. Dele

A VETERAN GUERRILLA who had fought and led the formation of the first Philippine Republic said the Arroyo administration is sowing fear factor.

"The Arroyo administration is sowing fear factor. They are sowing fear factor. They are sowing fear factor."

Death of Dapdap trees puzzles experts

By John de S. Reyes

A TINY BOW SPIDER UP was found on the dead tree. The tree was found on the road. The tree was found on the road. The tree was found on the road.

The tree was found on the road. The tree was found on the road. The tree was found on the road.

The tree was found on the road. The tree was found on the road. The tree was found on the road.



DECEASED Dapdap (left) and other trees in the area of the road. The tree was found on the road. The tree was found on the road. The tree was found on the road.

No-rally zone turns Palace into fortress

By G. C. Arroyo and Michael L. Udo, Jr.

BULACANESE IS DISPLAYING THE STRENGTH OF the Arroyo administration's policy on abortion. They are displaying the strength of the Arroyo administration's policy on abortion.

The Arroyo administration is displaying the strength of its policy on abortion. They are displaying the strength of its policy on abortion.

The Arroyo administration is displaying the strength of its policy on abortion. They are displaying the strength of its policy on abortion.

Marcelo: I feel pain all over

By Jojo Zamar

IT APPEARS THAT IN COMING DAYS, Marcelo will feel the pain of the Arroyo administration's policy on abortion. He will feel the pain of the Arroyo administration's policy on abortion.

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House vows to pass P1-trillion budget for 2006

THE HOUSE WILL be able to pass the P1.05 trillion appropriations bill on schedule, putting off the possibility of yet another suspended budget, according to the chair of the committee on appropriations, Congressman Neri Regalado Andaya Jr.

Andaya said the committee has been conducting marathon, 14-hour hearings to make up for the time lost when the House conducted impeachment hearings against President Macapagal-Arroyo through September.

"There will be no suspended budget. We, the lawmakers, must proceed as we have done since we have since recovered a great deal of lost time," Andaya said.

The hearings for

the departments of education, and trade and industry were deferred Thursday but Andaya was confident.

"We have been

holding hearings until midnight, while senators sleep, we are hitting the midnight oil," Andaya said.

The hearings for

one department, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, finished at 1 a.m. The national defense budget

wrapped up just before midnight. Andaya said the budget hearings would conclude next week even while Congress is in recess.

He said the budget needs to be passed so government workers will have their pay increase next year.

More than one million government

workers will receive P13.1 billion in salary adjustments next year if the 2006 budget is passed. Norman Bordadora

DOT eyes Spanish tourists

By Yuki Contreras

THE DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM (DOT) sees a Spanish colony seem to be a new factor in modern day "vacationland" holiday plans, as most of them are listed in other better market destinations in Southeast Asia.

With this observation, a Spanish Embassy official Thursday said that one of the goals will be to open up of links between the embassy and the Department of Tourism to maximize the Philippine tourism in Spanish territories, through campaigns capitalizing on the deep historical links between the two countries.

"Not many people in Spain know and only when we get here do we realize we are your former colonies," said Jose Miguel Cortes, the embassy's economic and commercial attaché.

"Unfortunately when you go to Spain these days and see the headlines of travel agencies, you never see the Philippines," he told reporters in a fraction in Manila City marking Spain's national day.

The embassy's initial project with the DOT include a facilitation unit for Spanish journalists and travel writers within the year, Cortes said.

"I told tourism secretary (Neri) Regalado that they should make an effort to become Spanish tourism travel a lot and spend a lot. We agreed that they will make an effort," he added.

Some 5,000 Spanish tourists arrived in the country last year, mostly to go diving. They came, however, largely after learning about the local attractions on the Internet or by word of mouth, rather than as a result of DOT promotions in Spain, Cortes said.

The attaché saw a fraction of those who visited other countries in the region, such as Vietnam, which got around 50,000 visitors from Spain, or Thailand which drew more 100,000, he said.

Spanish arrivals in the Philippines could increase considering that Spain has not issued any travel warnings on the country, the diplomat said.

SATUR'S WARNING

Only one territory for MILF, MNLF

By Michael Lim Ubac

TWO MUSLIM SEPARATIST GROUPS, ONE territory.

Satur Ocampo, chair of the House of Representatives' special committee on peace, reconciliation and unity, says the Arroyo government should consider the fate of the larger group of Muslims belonging to the Moro National Liberation Front before its seals a new autonomy agreement with the rival Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

"So how do they solve the problem? There's only one territory," said Ocampo, referring to the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, or ARMM, which consists of the provinces of Maguindanao, Lanao del Sur, Sulu, Tawi-Tawi, Basilan and Marawi City.

Ocampo told the *Inquirer* in an interview that the government faced a new "political issue" because it had a separate agreement with the MNLF, which had paved the way for the creation of the ARMM and the election of then MNLF chair Nur Misuari as the autonomous region's first governor.

Ocampo was reacting to a government disclosure — confirmed by MILF spokesperson Eid Kabalu — that they had agreed in principle to allow a Bangsamoro government to draft its own constitution, impose its own tax system and form and maintain legal and financial institutions in an expanded Muslim region in the south.

The legislator noted that the MNLF was a Moro guerrilla group which entered into a peace agreement with the government in September 1996 when Misuari was still at the helm of the group.

"Now, the government is entering into a peace accord with the MILF calling for another autonomous region in Mindanao. What will they do with the existing ARMM which was created by law?" said Ocampo.

Ocampo recalled he posed the same question to MILF leaders during a hearing by his committee.

"They said that the negotiation for another autonomous government will continue. The government will work it out later," Ocampo said, without identifying the MILF personalities.

Noting that the MILF had its own "negotiation trajectory," Ocampo said that in the end the country "will suffer the consequences of this action." In any event, he added, Malacañang would again have to run to Congress to legitimize the accord.

"What will be the reaction of the MNLF?" asked Ocampo, stressing that the Misuari-faction and the rest of the MNLF headed by former ARMM governor Parouk Hussin should also be consulted before any new autonomy agreement is concluded.

On Nov. 20, 2001, Misuari staged a mutiny after he was ousted by a government-backed 15-man council of the MNLF led by Hussin.

Breaking a 1996 peace deal with the government, Misuari and 400 of his men attacked three military camps and a police station on the island of Jolo. At least 51 people — 48 rebels and three soldiers — were killed and hundreds of civilians were displaced in the clashes that followed.

Misuari was arrested shortly afterward in Malaysia and is now detained at the Special Action Force camp in Silang, Cavite while awaiting trial for rebellion.

At the peak of the Moro rebellion, which began in 1972, more than 20,000 MNLF warriors fought the Marcos regime until a peace agreement was reached in 1976 with the help of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC).

But the accord collapsed and the rebellion continued on-and-off for years until the OIC persuaded Misuari to accept an autonomous arrangement offered by then President Fidel Ramos. Meanwhile, the MILF, which had earlier broken away from the MNLF continued to wage its own rebellion. It eventually entered into a ceasefire agreement with the Ramos administration but this too fell apart when the Estrada administration overran MILF camps because they were allegedly harboring terrorists.

Troops seize NPA explosives

TROOPS SEIZED A HUGE CACHE OF BOMB materials in a raid on a communist rebel hideout in a mountain barangay in Tanay, Rizal, an army spokesman said yesterday.

Major Bartolome Bacarro said soldiers, acting on a tip from informants, stormed a house in Tanay and found two boxes with about 100 kg (220 lb) of black gunpowder, an ingredient that could be used to make improvised explosives.

"There was no resistance at all," he told reporters, adding the armed men guarding the house fled as troops closed in.

Bacarro said the military was concerned about the bomb-making materials because the New People's Army (NPA) might have a plan to carry out attacks in Metro Manila as leftist activists hold regular protests near Malacañang.

The military says the NPA, blacklisted by Washington as a terrorist organization, has been stepping up attacks in the countryside using improvised bombs.

On Sunday, nine people, including five soldiers, were killed when a roadside bomb exploded during an ambush by NPA rebels in a remote farming town of Mindanao.

The rebels were also using home-made bombs to topple or burn down transmitters

and relay towers of telecommunications firms that refused to pay "revolutionary taxes," Bacarro said.

At least 18 cellular phone sites, 15 of them owned by number two carrier Globe Telecom Inc., have been damaged or destroyed since January.

In the last two weeks, the NPA has said it has killed about 60 soldiers in 74 encounters in the Bicol region and in northern and eastern areas of Mindanao.

Analysts say the rebels are trying to exploit government distractions over allegations that President Macapagal-Arroyo cheated her way to a fresh term in last year's election and that members of her family are corrupt. *Reuters*

Haribon hosts bird watch in Candaba

THE PHILIPPINES IS HOME TO SOME 556 BIRD species, about 44 percent of which are unique to the country, making it a haven for bird watchers.

It is also the East Asian Flyway that migratory birds take during the winter months of October to April.

The Haribon Foundation, through its membership program and together with stakeholders in Candaba, Pampanga, is hosting a bird watching activity on Oct. 22 at the Candaba Swamp.

The activity is aimed at increasing public awareness and promoting the protection and preservation of not only the Candaba Swamp but migratory birds as well.

It is open to the general public, including the residents of Candaba, local tourists, researchers and members of the academe.

The registration fee is P750/person for Haribon members and P1,000/person for nonmembers. It covers the costs of transportation, a morning snack, a packed lunch, laminated field guides, a booklet on bird watching and the fee of a professional bird guide.

For details, contact Lemuel Ponce or Anya Santos at 920-7430, 434-8237, or 436-4363 loc. 15 or 16; e-mail act@haribon.org.ph; or visit www.haribon.org.ph.

The World

Editor: Lorraine B. Gueco

Search for quake survivors abandoned

MUZAFFARABAD, PAKISTAN—THE SEARCH for survivors in quake-hit Pakistan was being abandoned Thursday as rescuers battling blocked roads and a shortage of helicopters focused on getting aid to remote mountain villages.

In Islamabad, the devastated capital of Pakistan, Catholic clergy spokesman said, saying there were no survivors in the rubble were any alive, and that operations moved to a recovery phase. Rescuers moved to begin making the piles of wreckage as though in the capital, Islamabad, Pakistan had suffered major earthquakes in the past few days and the quake was also catching up their equipment, leaving it very difficult to get people to stay so long in the rubble-waited aid.

The quake was coming, toward the upper end of being dead, shaking and shoring in an estimated 2.5 million people made homeless by Saturday's massive quake, which hit just as winter snows in the Himalayas.

The UN's emergency aid of food, medicine and other supplies to the disaster zone that the devastation was beyond relief.

An aid authority faced a nightmare scenario in one of the world's most rugged regions, with many of the roads destroyed and not enough helicopters to reach the mountainous areas and without shelter.

"We're still looking against the clock and we need to get more helicopters, more water, more food and more shelter," he said.

"This is a desperate situation, in Pakistan we are making progress in the more populated areas, but it is so hard to reach the others."

Pakistan's disaster response chief also issued a plea warning that many desperate survivors would not receive help before the



AN AFFECTED CHILD in the earthquake zone in Pakistan. The quake was beyond relief.

for weather closed in on the 10 million, and snowed in to their detriment in a bid.

"It is not possible to provide shelter in all the affected people before the winter approach," said Mr. Sen, saying relief, adding that despite the urgency of aid from other UN agencies there was still a time limit for the winter's end.

Journalists and would take "many years to say the least" in rebuilding northern Pakistan, where winter snow and village were obliterated by the quake, which killed at least 25,000 in Pakistan and over 1,000 in India.

An estimated 100,000 people were displaced in the quake zone and many clear facilities. Moving the displaced people, and a beginning to arrive in cities like Islamabad and Rawalpindi that have the worst of the disaster.

AN AFFECTED CHILD in the earthquake zone in Pakistan. The quake was beyond relief.

The distribution system is broken, triggering angry critics among survivors, and Pakistan troops face immense hurdles in leading supplies to remote villages that are barely accessible even by helicopter.

Officials have begun granting use of the helicopters, many saying injured relatives, so as to find help in once-busting roads where some had hospitals and medical facilities have been set up.

The tragedy has been compounded by a series of powerful earthquakes that triggered panic on both sides of the heavily militarized line of control that divides Pakistan from India's neighbors.

On the Pakistani side, the quake was feared for the victims of the quake, and for those who have seen so many nights in the cold and wet being a sharp reminder of the tragedy.



A SEARCH for survivors from the Mother's school in the quake zone in Pakistan. The quake was beyond relief.

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Diet fulfills Japan PM's postal privatization dream

TOKYO—JAPAN PRIME MINISTER Shinzo Abe's government is pushing a postal privatization bill, a move that would end the government's monopoly on mail delivery and postal services.

The big election was by the Diet and in the last session of the Diet, the bill was passed. The bill was passed by a vote of 234 to 100 in the House of Representatives.

The bill is a milestone in the privatization of Japan's postal system, which has been a government monopoly since 1946. The bill would allow private companies to compete with the government postal service.

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Perceptions vs pangs of hunger

THE SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH survey saying more Filipinos are going hungry (PH, 9/23/05) came at a time opposite time—the people of the world will observe World Food Day on Oct. 16.

The SRS survey from Aug. 28 to Sept. 5 showed that 15.5 percent of households nationwide considered themselves as having "supermarket hunger," or had nothing to eat, at least once in the past three months. That was high, or that the findings of the third survey conducted in May, which showed only 1.2 percent of all households falling into the category of having "supermarket hunger."

The SocSci research and Action Network (AN) believes that hunger is food is a universally recognized human right. It is the responsibility of the state to ensure the funda-

mental right of everyone to live free from hunger.

The state lawmakers reported the Malabon hunger response in the problem was to launch two safety and food-for-work programs targeting schoolchildren and the unemployed underemployment/underprivileged.

It, a coalition of non-governmental organizations defending the livelihood of small-scale farmers, is not surprised by the government's predictable stop-gap measures. The government refuses to accept that the high poverty incidence in the rural areas is caused by the country's dependence on imports, particularly rice, to feed its people. The government would do better if it supported the farmers to enable self-sufficiency in rice.

In a joint statement, Secretary Epifanio Tigue said that the

same SRS survey showed 46 percent of those polled perceived themselves as being poor. He said that was a sharp decline from the 77 percent in the SRS survey of May 2004, and this was the more he determined: "most emerging from the survey."

We thank the secretary for making the admission. The government is merely looking at the perception of the people on how poor they have become under this administration and not at the people who have actually experienced hunger.

The people will have to wait for regime measures to all their hunger.

—JESSICA SOTOL-CASTRO,
lead organizer
Action Network (AN),
41 Malabon Rd.,
Marikina City, QC



New kind of patriot

SEN. FRED LACSON HAS GIVEN A new meaning to the word patriot in choosing Richard for "Nino" Aquino to run. There is a whole of a different breed of patriotic solidarity in supporting public education on one hand, and equity and justice in social justice on the other.

Aquino had no other choice but to be elected ANP, by the PDP who was supposed to be the main force in the election. Now he is implicated in the federal system of governance, a high office for public service or even a career in his political parties.

A genuine patriot, Aquino has a commitment for serving his country well throughout his professional life, in a way supported with justice, dignity and responsibility. Can we say even a bit as much about Aquino who is now considered as Lacson's successor in the ANP and now a Senator from Philippine justice?

—CELESTINE DELLOSARTE,
celestine@comcast.net

Who's afraid of the truth?

WE ALL KNOW THAT "WORKING the work" is more than an acronym.

Open Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's order, directed for every Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) unit to declare to the Senate's national defense and security committee the accuracy of the book and to cover the initial five on the contract with the AFP as Arroyo's son's lobby group, whose members were engaged to lobby from the 12 Congressmen back for Macapagal's initiative to amend the Philippine Constitution.

Eleven Congressmen Virgilio Alvarado, wanted under circumstances that justifiably raised suspicion that Macapagal had a hand in his disappearance on Sept. 10, he cannot be arrested or asked about the "Nino" Aquino case, which has led to such suspicion that GMA had a hand in the rigging of the 2004 presidential election.

AFP has been notoriously reworking the coverage regarding those who want to know about the alleged cheating in the 2004 election? Where is justice then? To GMA about the truth? Or by someone about the truth?

Such widespread invitation of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) to support to have been led by GMA while Aquino's history is support for the correct officials to extend the state from the people.

Of late, one of the very few defense officers of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, Brig. Gen. Francisco Gaudin, has been ordered to resign. He had been ordered to resign because he had a GMA order not to work in the Armed Forces on the possible involvement of military officers in the rigging of the 2004 election.

Why the gap if GMA believes she is innocent of charges against her? There is something else when there is nothing to hide. And, why more and more Gaudin with most military officers he could easily? This incident is because GMA knows beforehand that what Gaudin was about to tell the Senate was not something to be told.

Can martial law officers just be telling what he knew about the alleged cheating in the 2004 election? Where is justice then? To GMA about the truth? Or by someone about the truth?

—BOB E. BAKER,
bob_baker@yahoo.com

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P50B in loans offered for ethanol

MANILA CITY—THE DEVELOPMENT BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES (DBP) has made available P50 billion in loans for those who want to venture into ethanol production, according to Agriculture Secretary Domingo Panganiban.

He told the leaders of the sugar industry on Wednesday that the loans are open-ended and can be used to buy up ethanol plant.

He added that other financial institutions were also prepared to provide substantial amounts for the purpose.

Panganiban said he was opt-

imistic on the future of the sugar industry with the expected production to meet industrial sugar needs. The secretary was busy on Wednesday evening, attending the 10th Annual Meeting of the Philippine Association of Sugar Producers (PASP) held by the Philippine Sugar Association and the Philippine Sugar Industry Association.

He said the sugar industry has a long way to go to become a major export. He said the sugar industry has a long way to go to become a major export. He said the sugar industry has a long way to go to become a major export.

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COLD CASH

Everyone today probably wants to earn extra income. But how? The answer is simple: by selling your skills. The image shows a group of people, including children, standing in front of a large, dark, rectangular structure, possibly a piece of machinery or a building. The scene appears to be outdoors, and the people are looking towards the camera.

Demand for micro hydro power plants grows

By Christine L. Calma
 Manila Bureau Staff Writer



MANILA, PHILIPPINES—The demand for micro hydro power plants is growing rapidly in the Philippines, according to a report by the Philippine Association of Sugar Producers (PASP).

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AFP chief tells troops in Cebu to stay loyal to command chain

By Christine L. Calma
 Manila Bureau Staff Writer

CEBU CITY—AFP CHIEF OF STAFF Gen. Romeo B. Sinayan told troops in Cebu to stay loyal to the command chain, according to a report by the Philippine Association of Sugar Producers (PASP).

He said the troops should stay loyal to the command chain, according to a report by the Philippine Association of Sugar Producers (PASP).

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OFW buried amid calls for justice

By Christine L. Calma
 Manila Bureau Staff Writer

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INQUIRER *Visayas*

Editor: Joe Bascopied
 Bureau Chief: Joseph L. Bernaldo Jr.



YOUNG artist Amanda S. Tolosa of Calbayog City prescribes some of her works during his 15th solo exhibit last Aug. 7-10 Sept. 9, 2009, at the Hape Art Club in Calbayog City.

Calbayog pays tribute to visual artist

By Vicente S. Labay
 Calbayog City

NETHER AGE FOR A MILD smile could stop visual artist Amanda S. Tolosa from pursuing his passion for painting, even at his hometown room.

roles his contributions to their place.

Tolosa, 31, a retired government employee and a member of Calbayog City in former province, was featured last Sept. 15 the Daring Suburban for visual area from his fellow Calbayogians, in recognition of his efforts to enhance culture and the art in their city. The evening event also highlighted the 10th anniversary of the Calbayog City School of Art.

Tolosa said he had a mild smile at the time, but after 10 years, he had a "strong" smile.



TOLOSA'S 15th solo exhibit in many pieces.

The 15th Art Association of the Philippines annual competition that was held at the 15th Western in Manila in December last year.

But despite his health condition and age, Tolosa continued to paint and do other visual arts after only a few months of rest.

Last Sept. 15, Tolosa showcased his month-long 10th solo exhibit dubbed "Thoughts of a Mindful Mind," which showcased his works in mixed media using geometric lines, bold colors, paper scraps, fine prints, acrylic on canvas and 14 items of New York.

The exhibit, held at the Hape Art Club at 10111 Republic and Route 10111 in Calbayog, showcased 15 of Tolosa's artworks, among them the "Thoughts of a Mindful Mind," "The Mindful Mind," "Mindful Mind," and "Peace of Mind," all in mixed media; "Peace of Mind" and "Mindful Mind" both in acrylic; and "Thoughts of Mindful Mind," "Thoughts of Mindful Mind" and "Thoughts of Mindful Mind" in mixed media.

Teacher

Tolosa is a first elementary school teacher, who had taught children and young adults in subjects, and a former assistant chief of the City Arts and Cultural Office when he spent the last three years of his government service.

He has no formal schooling in the art but in 1970, he started painting and print work. He had a 10-year career in the art of Calbayog, he said.

The artist spent the last 10 years of his career in the art of Calbayog, he said.

He started painting group exhibits and recently exhibited solo exhibits.

In 1970, he was one of the 100 artists who were invited to join the art club that was held in celebration of the Philippine Centennial.

In September 2003, Tolosa and eight other artists who were invited to join the art club that was held in celebration of the Philippine Centennial.

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TOLOSA'S 15th solo exhibit in many pieces.

METROBRIEFS

Lost in transmission?

THE MEMORANDUM sent by the chief of anti-illegal drugs to the barangay chair of Bangkulasi, Navotas read that approximately five kilos of marijuana leaves were turned over to local police for safekeeping. The leaves were reportedly found floating in Manila Bay by fishermen. But a report filed at the Northern Police District said only one kilo was recorded at the Station Anti-Illegal Drugs Special Operations Unit for inventory purposes. The town's chief of police Supt. Genesis Tolejano, however, said the marijuana leaves were all accounted for, adding that he was surprised why only a kilo was reported in the district's file. Tolejano said the marijuana leaves could be part of a shipment thrown into the bay during an operation conducted by the Coast Guard the other day.



Nancy C. Carvajal

Page One (Book 2) launch today

A SEMINAR for Mass Communication teachers and students co-hosted by Anvil Publishing Inc., the Philippine Daily Inquirer and Powerbooks will be held today from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at Powerbooks, Greenbelt 4, Makati City. The seminar marks the release of Page One: Book Two, published by the INQUIRER. The much-awaited sequel to the groundbreaking Page One: Book One, this new volume presents the most memorable front-page images of the INQUIRER from 1996 to 2001. INQUIRER publisher Isagani M. Yambot and associate editor Abel S. Ulanday will speak on "Media Values amidst a Political and Moral Crisis," and "The Science of Producing a Daily Newspaper," respectively. Moderator for the discussion is INQUIRER books consultant Ruel S. De Vera.

New look for Makati cops

MAKATI CITY policemen will have a date with the barber today at no cost. "This is meant to boost the moral of our men. When you are enforcing the law, you also have to look presentable, or else the people will not respect and obey you," said Supt. Efren Ysulat, Makati Police District officer in charge. Hairstylists from the Kumakalinga sa Mamamayan Para sa Reporma Inc. (Kumpare), a nongovernment organization have been tapped for the job from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Makati City Hall quadrangle.



Tarra V. Quismundo

UP engineers' alumni homecoming

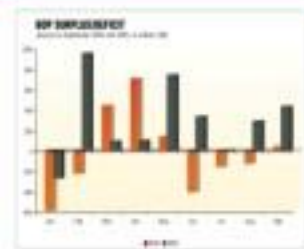
THE UNIVERSITY of the Philippines Alumni Engineers will hold its annual homecoming and reunion on Nov. 12 at the UP College of Engineering in Diliman, Quezon City. The new Computer Science building will be inaugurated in time for the homecoming. Graduates of Class 1955 (Golden Jubilarians) and Class 1965 (Ruby Jubilarians) will also receive their commemorative awards from the Homecoming Committee during the reunion. Tickets to the affair are priced at P500 each. For more details, contact the UPAE Secretariat at telephone numbers 436-1386 or 922-4714.

BUSINESS

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Balance of payments posts \$2.73B surplus

STRONG DOLLAR INFLUENCE from migrant workers, exports, investments and foreign remittances drove up the Philippines' balance of payments to a surplus of \$2.73 billion from January to September as against a \$1.76-billion deficit a year ago.

It was the strongest BOP surplus buildup ever recorded by the Philippines since 1999, when a shortfall of \$3.94 billion was posted, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas reported yesterday.

The country's BOP surplus in the first nine months also reflected the surge in the country's gross value added in services (GVA) to a high of \$18.5 billion as of end-September.

For the month of September alone, the BOP surplus stood at \$291 million, doubling the \$141 million surplus in the same months a year.

"The January-September 2003 BOP surplus was achieved following a major push in GVA growth, strong growth in GVA tourism, Filipino workers' earnings and foreign investment in Borneo, both direct and portfolio, improved balance of trade, higher government external loans, higher and improved investment income," BSP Governor Atienza

Tejero said.

The BSP measures the foreign exchange transactions between the local economy and the rest of the world. Its major components are the current account and the capital and financial account.

The current account records trade in goods and services as well as such transfers, such as remittances from, and the capital and financial account includes foreign investment flows.

For instance, which gives rise to a payment by a Philippine resident like remittances is a debit item in the BOP while any remittance which gives rise to a receipt like remittances is a credit item in the BOP.

The \$420-million BOP surplus posted in September also represented an improvement from the \$200-million surplus in August.

The BOP is closely linked with the country's foreign reserves, which, in turn, were boosted in September by proceeds from the government's latest \$1.4-billion global bond issue.

The CB, consisting of the BSP's gold reserve, currency holdings, gold reserves, special drawing rights from multilateral institutions.

OFW remittances jump 28.3% to \$954M in Aug.

Eight-month total inflow reaches \$7B

By Owen C. Daniels

OVERSEAS FILIPINO workers remitted \$954 million in August, or 28.3 percent better than the amount they sent a year ago, as more skilled workers found lucrative jobs outside the country.

According to the Philippine Overseas Assistance Program, a September assessment that for the first eight months of this year, OFW remittances totaled \$7 billion, or 24 percent better than the \$5.6 billion a year ago.

"Given the more than 20-year prior on-site operation that has generated more Philippine investments are expected to remain strong given that the building sector," Tejero said.

But of the migrant remittances came from the United States, Saudi Arabia, India, Japan, Hong Kong, the United Kingdom, the United Arab Emirates and Singapore.

The BSP chief said that migration

was bolstered effectively by continued trade, such as enhanced money transfer services, more remittance centers and the upsurge with foreign financial institutions and offshore agents, were contributing to OFW's in-kind funds to their local households through the formal banking channels.

Tejero has been saying that the use of formal banking institutions would provide an excellent, timely and safe channel for remittance transactions and help promote better savings habits among OFWs. For the authorities, however, monitoring mechanisms and understanding of where flows are used to impact positively on policy-making.

Based on a study of the New York experience, remittances held as deposits in the banking system had a beneficial multiplier effect of between two to three times as those could be disbursed to investments, with more and more confidence among the local residents.

Also contributing to the continued surge in remittances was the increase in the number of OFWs during the first eight months of 2003.

News from the Philippine Daily



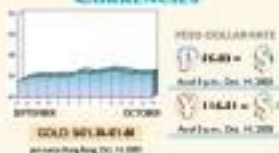
OFW workers have found lucrative jobs outside the country, resulting in a total of \$7 billion in remittances.

New Employment Administration showed that deployed overseas workers increased by 1.6 percent to 691,728 following continuing efforts by the government in co-operation with the private sector to provide skills-enhancing and other development programs.

Sea-based workers deployed abroad rose by 9.7 percent to 365,696, compensating for the 8.8 percent decline in the deployment of land-based workers.

The listing of higher-paid migrant workers—such as seafarers.

CURRENCIES



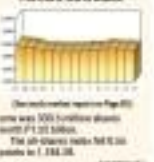
STOCK MARKET

Shares close little changed

SEATTLE prices closed little changed yesterday as a result of rising oil prices and a weak Philippine peso. The PSE closed at 1,451.41, up 0.10 points from 1,451.31.

The market moved without any clear direction in the absence of fresh funds and because of continuing political uncertainties, they said. The composite index hit 1,451.41 after trading between 1,448.37 and 1,453.77. Vol-

PRE-COMPOSITE INDEX



WHAT'S INSIDE

Less gov't money will be used to pay interests in '06
\$500-M '05 mineral exports target within reach, says Bureau of Mines
Kin Eng group sells PSE stake

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Home • Recreation

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Styling editor: LARRY HILAN
Cover star: PHILIPINE ANNE CURTIS

The colored-kuba
life of **Anne
Curtis** page 02

Initial-D
premieres
in Manila page 02

Man About Town
is back in
town page 03

How to **jump**
off a building
and live to tell
the tale page 02

The new **Fully Booked**,
Motorola's
ROKR iTunes phone,
Shu Uemura
and Gwen Stefani
and other
Super! Selections

Get a dose
of **Pinoy**
comic book
creativity page 02

It's time to make
some
Superfriends!
page 01

Tals Diaz
moves out
and moves **in**
page 02



& Ted: Wanted," both star-
Anne Curtis-Smith.
thought an animated char-
nim-e? Anim-e as in sina John
mman, Mico, Rodjun, Sergio,
o, we're just friends... po.

ne & Tail
Tail

think is your best feature?
my best picture is my gradua-

e a boyfriend/girlfriend?
ka lang a...) Si Lorenzo and

o to for advice? Si Tita Jean
a V, kasi they're so high...

TWO WEEKS HAVE

ed? Yes, making *kampana* to
know one time nga I got hit in

No, but people are always
use of my looks. It's not fair!

for fun? The Alchemist, Pur-
Sophie's World, Rich Dad Poor
d My Cheese? and The Ugly

It's me, noh? Ako yung bible!

ly? Yes, very. I'm so tired of
at, enormous bell.

a wearing? Oy ha! Walang
e from Zara, and pajamas

e in The Big
According to

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y neighbors playing
ours, and toilet pa-
middle of the night
your own soon be-

comes a true pleasure once
you first experience That Day. It will eventual-
ly come; That Day is totally different from the
first day of moving in, for it will be marked by a
strange, but groovy kinda feeling when you
look around at your new pad, after dinner per-
haps, and say to yourself, Welcome home.

Now pour out the imaginary champagne.

my research, it is highly improbable that a sin-
gle spontaneous event leads to the creation of
the entire universe. O ha! Nakapasa yata
akong NEAT!

What's a name you'd rather be called?
Lafawnduh Lily-Go-Yap-Champ-Lui-Pio

What is right next to you? A bell!!
Duh!!!!

Where do you want to go on your honey-
moon? Sa State.

You mean United States? Hindi!! Sa State!
Duh!!!

Have you ever won any special awards?
Actually, a lot. Binibining Bukid '76. Super!'s
Oh! Caption, My Caption! Contest, MTV VJ
Hunt, and a dog show.

Any message to your family and friends?
Well, may gusto akong sabihin sa aking daddy.
Dad, utang na loob, patigilin niyo na sa pag-
aararo si inay. K? And to my friends, all I want
to say is L.I.B.Y.A.—Love is Beautiful; You Also.

Ms Kuba is misunderstood. She is a gem in a
sea of plastic characters that bombard our
primetime screens. She is the most insightful,
deep, and meaningful person we've met, and
when she dies, we're sure they'll all say,
"Kawawa naman si Kampie, in-attack ng bell."

Catch *Kampanerang Kuba* weekdays, 8:30
p.m. only on ABS-CBN.

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ANNE CURTIS WEARS PETIT MONDE



from the Skyjump we also
equally thrilling Skywalk
ou are connected to a har-
a hanging pole and walk
Macau Tower 61 floors
ground. Talk about a fan-
obstructed view of the en-
l.
n to Channel 2 and check
Macau adventure tonight
s Unlimited, after Sabado
eats.



IT'S SO... tall.
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